

SPIDER-MAN

MARVEL COMICS GROUP™

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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY



GO ON,
WORLD!

HURT EACH
OTHER--KILL
EACH OTHER--
DO ANYTHING
YOU WANT!

I JUST
DON'T
CARE
ANY MORE!



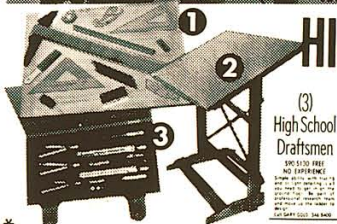
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...when you train at home with NASD for a
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(The following quotes from U.S. Labor Dept point out nationwide shortage for Draftsmen)

"The dearth of qualified applicants has resulted in increasing calls for trainees, as employers in many areas relaxed hiring specifications. Experience requirements have been virtually eliminated, along with age barriers."

"Steadily growing employer requirements...were accompanied by marked reductions in the supply of draftsmen available."

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4. Sample Lesson - a "sneak preview" of things to come.

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Coast-to-Coast Shortage of Trained Draftsmen Opens Thousands Big Salary Jobs for Beginners!

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Today's population explosion guarantees boom in building of homes, churches, schools, factories, office buildings & warehouses is just starting. Thousands Architectural Draftsmen needed NOW because drawings must be made of every part of every building before ground can be broken.

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Skyrocketing U.S. mass production requires millions of drawings & thousands of Mechanical Draftsmen all along the way. Drawings must be made of every PART of every product used in the U.S. (as well as of the machines that make these parts) before production can be started.

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Earns \$820 Monthly!
 "My first position after completing your course jumped my income from \$350 to \$820 per month."
 -G. W., Tern.

Big Promotion!
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 -W. R., New York

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 -H. O., Ohio

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 ADDRESS _____
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THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!
SPIDEY COPS OUT!

B-BUT YOU SHOULD HAVE TAKEN HIM THROUGH ADMITTANCE! TH-THERE ARE PROCEDURES-- CERTAIN FORMS THAT HAVE TO BE FILLED OUT!

Y-YOU CAN'T JUST DROP HIM IN A BED --AN-AND TELL ME --TO CALL A DOCTOR! DON'T EVEN KNOW HIS NAME-- WHERE HE COMES FROM--

HIS NAME'S MARTIN BLANK.

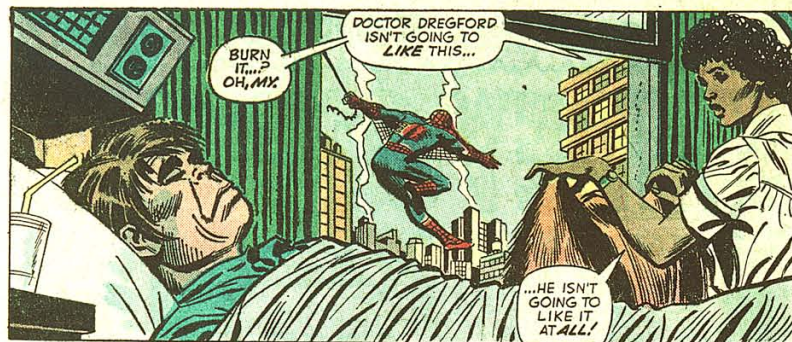
WHEN HE COMES AROUND, TELL HIM SPIDEY SAYS HI--AND NO HARD FEELINGS.

B-BUT WHAT ABOUT TH-THIS? WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO WITH THIS-- THIS COSTUME?

BURN IT, NURSE LADY... BURN IT!

STAN LEE PRESENTS: A JOHN ROMITA AND GERRY CONWAY AVALANCHE OF OFFBEAT ACTION! ARTIE SIMEN, LETTERER ROY THOMAS, EDITOR

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BURN IT...? OH, MYX.

DOCTOR DREGFORD ISN'T GOING TO LIKE THIS...

...HE ISN'T GOING TO LIKE IT AT ALL!



I REALLY HATED TO DO THAT TO THAT NURSE--

SHE'S ONLY TRYING TO DO HER JOB, CHECKING BED-CHARTS--AND HERE I COME, CHARGING THROUGH THE WINDOW WITH A LIMP MAN IN MY ARMS--



--HECK, I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW HIS BLUE SHIELD NUMBER!

BUT WHO AM I KIDDING, ANYWAY? MUCH AS I FEEL SORRY FOR POOR OLD MARTIN BLANK--



--I'M REALLY WORRIED SICK OVER AUNT MAY!

HOW COULD SHE JUST--JUST VANISH LIKE THAT? LEAVING ONLY A NOTE, NOT TELLING ANYONE WHERE SHE'S GONE--

IT'S NOT LIKE HER--



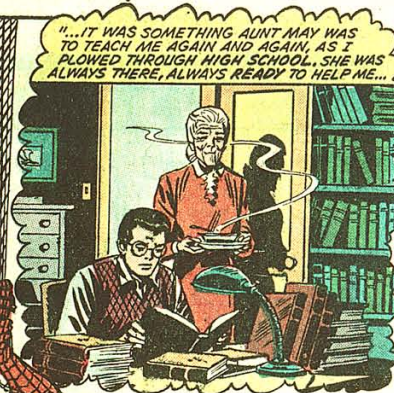
"--IT'S JUST NOT THE AUNT MAY WHO RAISED ME WITH UNCLE BEN. FUNNY... IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE I LAST THOUGHT ABOUT THOSE DAYS, AFTER MY PARENTS DIED..."

"WE WERE A FAMILY, THE THREE OF US--"



"--AND WHEN UNCLE BEN WAS KILLED, SHOT BY A BURGLAR I REFUSED TO CHASE AS SPIDER-MAN, WE BECAME CLOSER."

"THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I UNDERSTOOD THE MEANING OF RESPONSIBILITY..."



"...IT WAS SOMETHING AUNT MAY WAS TO TEACH ME AGAIN AND AGAIN, AS I PLOWED THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL, SHE WAS ALWAYS THERE, ALWAYS READY TO HELP ME..."



"...AND WHEN I RECEIVED MY DIPLOMA, IT WAS THE PROUDEST DAY OF HER LIFE, AS WELL AS MINE."

"KNOWING THAT MADE IT ALL MORE IMPORTANT..."



"...JUST AS KNOWING HOW SICKLY SHE WAS MADE ME ALMOST INSANITY CAREFUL THAT SHE NEVER LEARNED HER NEPHEW, PETER PARKER, WAS THE WALL-CRAWLER A LOT OF PEOPLE CALLED A CRIMINAL..."



"A FAT LOT OF GOOD IT DID ME, TOO! I NEARLY FLIPPED WHEN I FOUND OUT WHO SHE'D TAKEN IN AS A BOARDER WHEN I MOVED OUT TO GET A PAD WITH HARRY OSBORN."

PETER, DEAR...THIS IS MR. OCTAVIUS. HE'LL BE STAY-ING HERE UNTIL HE FINDS A MORE PERMANENT HOME.

DOC OCK! BUT I CAN'T LET AUNT MAY KNOW--

HER HEART'S TOO WEAK! SHE COULDN'T TAKE IT!

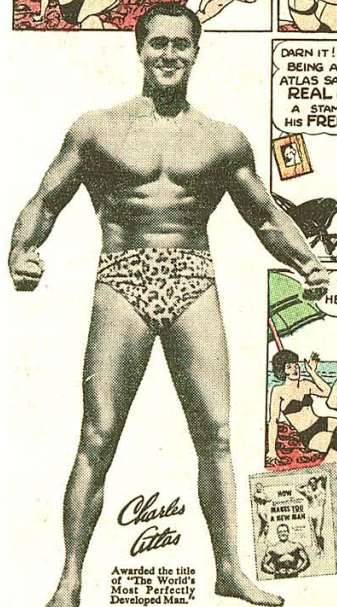
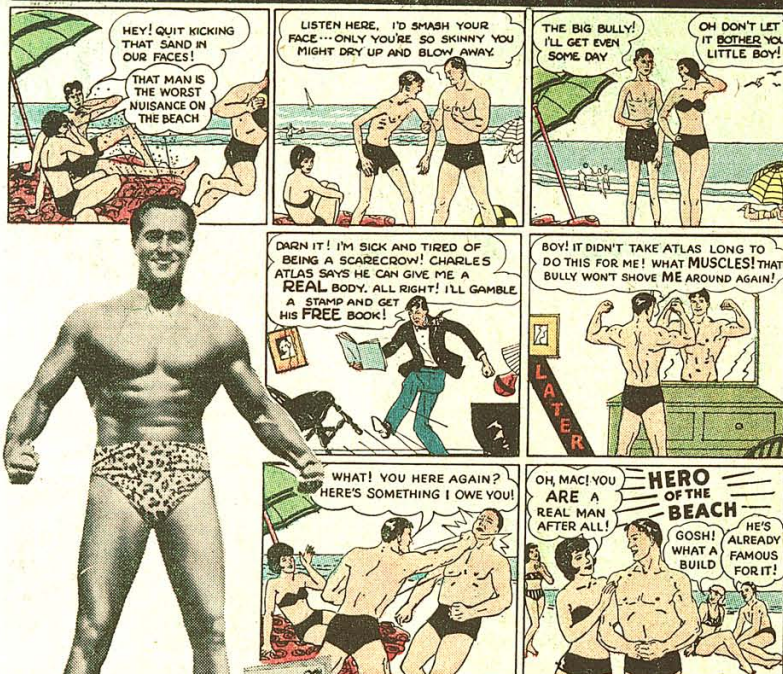


"SOMEHOW, AUNT MAY ALWAYS SEEMED TO BE INVOLVED IN MY BATTLES AS SPIDER-MAN--WHETHER IT WAS THAT TIME WITH DOCTOR OCTOPUS--"

HMM...SEEMS TO US THAT HAPPENED BACK IN SPIDEY'S. ANY DISAGREEMENTS? --RASCALLY ROY.

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

THE INSULT THAT MADE A MAN OUT OF "MAC"



Let Me PROVE I Can Make YOU A NEW MAN!

ARE you "fed up" with seeing the huskies walk off with the best of everything? Sick and tired of being soft, frail, skinny or flabby — only HALF ALIVE? I know just how you feel. Because I myself was once a puny 97-pound "runt." And I was so ashamed of my scrawny frame that I dreaded being seen in a swim suit.

The Secret of How I Got My Build

Then I discovered a wonderful way to develop my body fast. It worked wonders for me — changed me from the scrawny "runt" I was at 17, into "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man." And I can build up YOUR body the very same natural way — without weights, springs or pulleys. Only 15 minutes a day of pleasant practice — in the privacy of your room.

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quick time. Let it help YOU. Not next month or next year — but RIGHT NOW!

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 - ☐ More Weight—Built-in the Right Places
 - ☐ Slimmer Waist and Legs

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Address.....

City.....Zip.....

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"--OR DURING MY FREE-FOR-ALL WITH THE HIGH-FLYING BEETLE!"

"ISN'T THAT HOW IT'S ALWAYS BEEN? SPIDER-MAN GETS ALL THE GLORY-- HOT, SHOT, PETE. GETS ALL THE SCHOLARSHIPS--"

--AND MAY PARKER GETS NOTHING BUT GRIEF.

NO WONDER SHE WENT AWAY. WHO COULD BLAME HER?

"WHEN IT COMES TO SAFE LIVING... BEING RELATED TO PETER PARKER IS LIKE LIVING ON AN ATOMIC TESTING GROUND!"

"WOW... WHAT'S THE USE? I CAN'T COOL MYSELF... I KNOW THAT'S NOT THE REAL REASON SHE'S LEFT..."

*SHOWN IN SPIDEY #94. --ROY.

IT'S BECAUSE OF WHAT MY GIRL GWEN SAID TO HER--

--TELLING HER SHE'D BEEN TOO MATERIAL TO HER NEPHEW PETEY-- TOO PROTECTIVE!

GWEN MEANT WELL, BUT SHE NEVER REALIZED-- WAIT!

SOMETHING'S MAKING MY SPIDER-SENSE TINGLE--

--SOMETHING HAPPENING BELOW, AT THE OPENING TO THIS ALLEY!

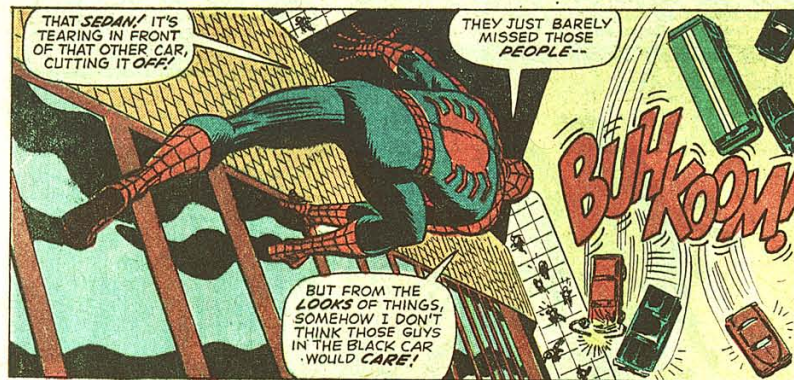
NOW I HEAR IT-- THE DISTANT SQUEAL OF BRAKES! AND ANOTHER SOUND-- GUNSHOTS!

SREEEECH!

KTOW! KTOW!

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CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

Okay, troops, it's time to level with Marvelwood Assembled! Each day a kaboodle of mail pours into the Bullpen asking why my script-writing output has dwindled to practically zero. I'd like to give you a simple answer, but I'm the kinda guy who can't say "hello" without making it a speech. So try to bear with me, huh? I think I can promise you a surprise or two as we go rambling along. Anyway, if ye harken to these words, the seeds of truth and wisdom shall be scattered, mayhap, amongst thee!

Until now mighty Marvel has been a lusty, gusty, irreverent mischief-maker in the wondrous world of comic. It was Marvel that first introduced heroes with human hang-ups; Marvel that popularized guest-star appearances till you needed a scorecard to tell you who was who; Marvel that dared create continued stories — and then forgot how to end them, so that they went on forever! It was Marvel who gave you a Bullpen Bulletins page where we can rap together like this; Marvel who liberated the genres who bring you these epics; Marvel who, in the bow of anonymity, and billboarded the name of every writer, artist, and letterer until you now know 'em almost as well as we do. Only Marvel could

have made satire and sentimentality, relevance and ribaldry a part of the comic mystique. And who but Marvel would have dared make a hero out of a man who kills himself by riding a sky-lander called the Silver Surfer? Well, we could go on forever, but it might sound like bragging — and you know how we hate to do that! Anyway, that takes us up to the present. Like a fella named Milhous recently said, Phase One has just about had its fill of the world. It's time to begin. No man, no group of men, no publishing company can rest on its laurels — and Marvel's still much too young, too zingy, too bright-eyed and bushy-tailed to settle back and bask in the sun of yesterday's success. So here's the real question: Where here there be sin, where there be thieves, and be sure to pay attention, 'cause we're not making a movie without ya!

First, I've been bustin' to tell you that Rascally Roy Thomas, whose sensational scripts and awesome editorial assistance have helped spearhead Marvel's gallop to greatness, has been promoted to Editor! That means the titanic Mr. T. will be the omnipotent overseer of all our plots and stories. And you can bet he'll be ably assisted by the greatest group of with-it writers ever assembled under any comix roof — script-writing stalwarts such as Gerry Conway, Archie Goodwin, Steve Englehart, Mike Friedrich, Gary Friedrich, George Alec Effinger, Gardner Fox, and Stu Schwartzberg, not to

Next, Fearless Frank Giacoia has been appointed our Assistant Art Director! Frankie's credentials for this position are impeccable. He's not only one of the finest inkers our field has ever produced, but — and not many of you may know this — he's also a powerful penciller in his own right! Frank's been a top newspaper strip artist as well as a comic-book caliph for years — and now he's all ours!

But, if it sounds to you like ol' Stan is singing his own swan song, forget it! Yours Truly feels like a tiger unleashed! With Roy supervising our swinging storylines, and Frankie lending a hand with the art direction (not to mention music! Johnnie Regpoorten is supporting the whole 'superhero' bandstand), almost superhuman level of coordinating our ever-increasing production schedules), it means that I'll finally have the time (after all these years of writing and kibitzing) to devote myself exclusively to dreaming up new, exciting projects for the Bullpen, new directions for us to take, new types of mags to produce, new storylines, new fields for Marvel to conquer in film, TV, books, and you-name-it-we'll do it!

Wouldja believe we've already started work on a whole series of new comic futures? We'll clue you in, of course, in future Bulpenn columns. Yep, we've got surprises in store for fanatical fans and casual readers alike. We're setting up brand new departments to bring you fantastic types of entertainment no comic company has ever thought of creating before. And whenever we can take a break, I'll be devoting more time than ever to lecturing at colleges and universities, doing my bit to spread the gospel according to Marvel! However, even though I no longer have time to write any steady features, I've a hunch that this battered old typewriter which I'm pounding on right now will always prove to be a lure that I can't resist, so take warning — you never know when the phantom script-writer will strike again! Anyway, we've been friends for so long, and shared so many great adventures together, that I thought I'd let you in on the secrets of Marvel that I'm just not about to let you get away! So you'll still find me yakk'ing at you right here in the ol' Soapbox each month — and if you ever stand me up, it's one demerit!

And that's it for now, gang. If you think we turned you on before, the best is yet to be — wait'll you see what's coming! Hang loose! Face front! Marvel's on the move again! We're pushing Phase Two — and it's all for you!

Excelsior!

FANTASTIC FOUR #126: This is where it all began! Still "The World's Greatest Comix Mag!" And now — the return of the Mole Man!

SPIDER-MAN #112: Spidey cops out! Our wall-crawler turns his back on the world — and wait'll you find out why!

THOR #203: Ego-Prime defeated! Odin's master plan revealed at last! Then — the birth of a new mystery!

AVENGERS #103: The Sentinels strike! How can the Avengers stop them — while the Scarlet Witch is held hostage?

HULK #155: The awesome entity called — the Shaper of Worlds! And, wouldja believe — Captain Axis!

CAPT. AMERICA & THE FALCON #153:
Cap vs. Nick Fury! Sharon quits Shield!
While the Falcon — well, wait and see!

DAREDEVIL #91: He's back from the dead! Mr. Fear—the only man who knows DD's true identity! So—look out!

SUB-MARINER #53: The battle to the finish with Sunfire! And, you've never seen anything quite like Dragon-Lord!

IRON MAN #50: Can Princess Python give Shellhead a fight for his life? Well, if she can't — the Cyborg Sinister can!

CONAN THE BARRABIAN #18: Demons

CONAN THE BARBARIAN #18: Demons that walk like men! A world in chaos! See why we call this one — "The Kingdom of the Dead!"

KULL THE CONQUEROR #4: Fantasy master John Jakes plotted this one! "The Night of the Red Slayers!" A must!

MARVEL TEAM-UP #4: Spidey's life in danger! Morbius at large! And then — enter the X-Men! Like great!

CAPTAIN MARVEL #22: The hero who just wouldn't die! But, that was before he met—Megaton, the Nuclear Murderer!

AMAZING ADVENTURES #14: Give it up, Beast! Even you can't survive the deadly attack of Quasimodo — the computer that killed

WEREWOLF BY NIGHT #1: Marvel's newest, weirdest sensation yet! Man into wolf...at midnight! For real!

TOMB OF DRACULA #4: Dracula at bay! A mysterious mirror — which may mean safety, or doom! Eerie beyond belief!

MARVEL FEATURE #5: Trapped in a world too big for him! Ant-Man comes face to face with — Egghead!

MARVEL PREMIERE #4: Serpent-men and shadows! Dr. Strange vs. — the Spawn of Sligguth!

CREATURES ON THE LOOSE #19: Gulliver Jones vs. the Barbarians of Mars! Fantasy — with a mighty Marvel twist!

SGT. FURY #102: Talk about way-out war-mags! The hard-hitting Howlers take on a crime syndicate—in wartime Italy!

RED WOLF #3: "The War of the Wolf-Brothers!" Our Indian avenger goes into action at the head of a raging wolfpack!

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WALLACE W. NEUMANN

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defense in which you turn your hands, arms and legs into instruments. When you know how to use KARATE, you can win in 10 seconds.

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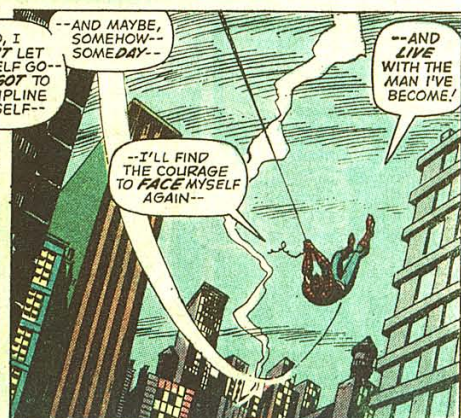
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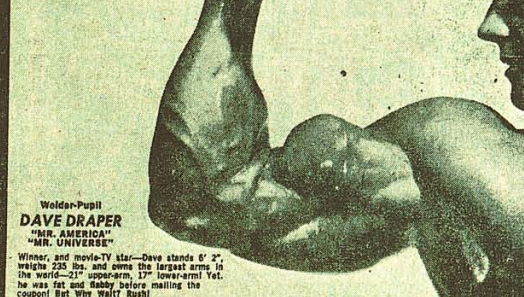
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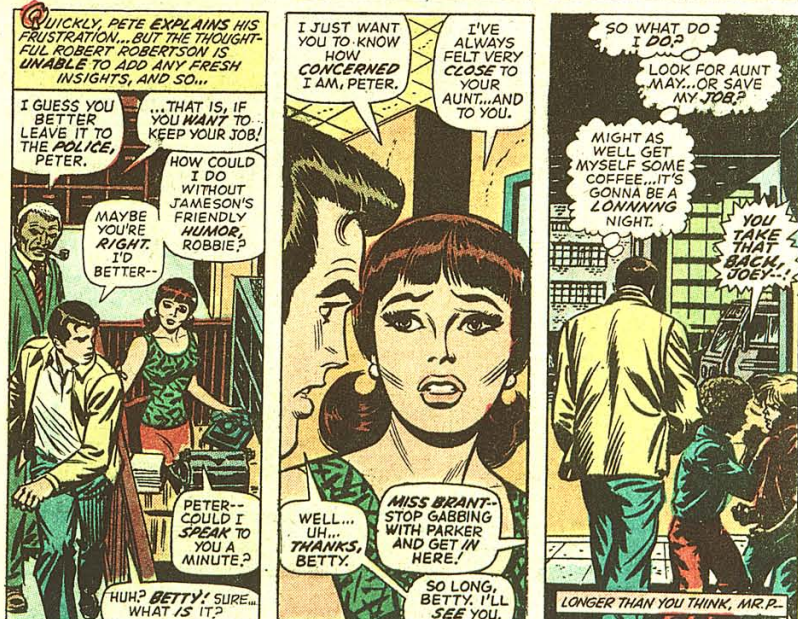
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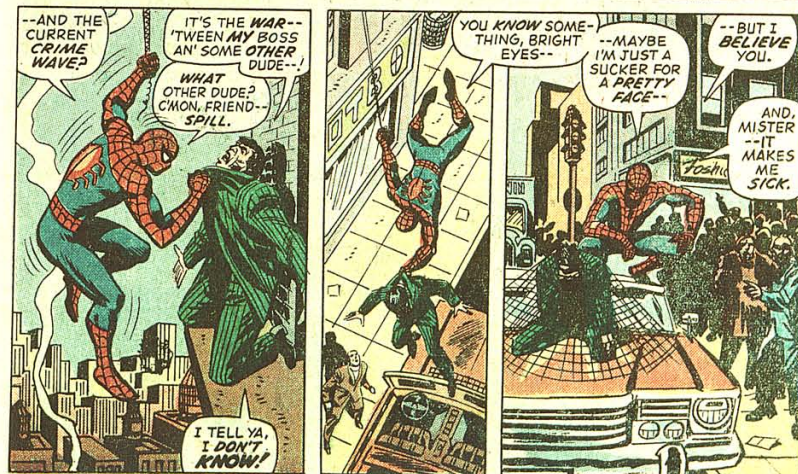
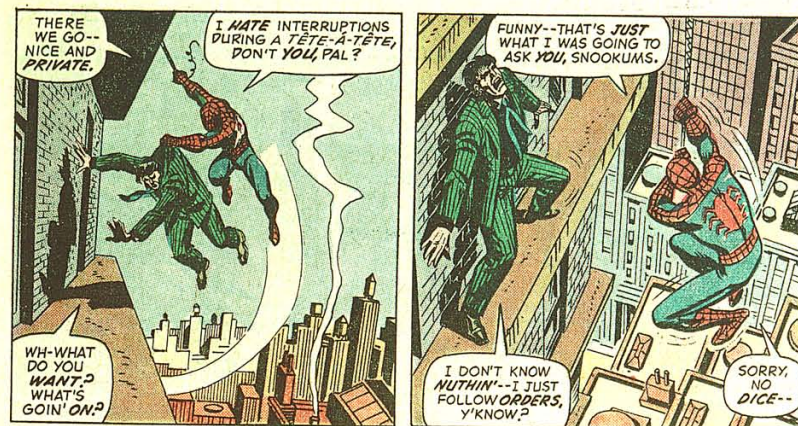
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THE SPIDER'S WEB

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO:

THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP, SECOND FLOOR 625 MADISON AV., NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

Dear Stan, John, Artie, Dopey, Sneezey etc.,

Oh, come on now! Don't tell me you're going to wreck things between Pete and Gwen! After all, enough is enough. I know a lot of Spidey's success in circulation is because he is really different, for he is one of the few heroes who always seems to have three or more problems hanging over his head. But still, let the poor guy have something good going for him. Anyone else would have cracked up, or given up super-heroing, or moved to Timbuktu -- but good ole Spidey is hanging in there like a Spider-Man should. I also didn't care for the plot. It seemed like you were trying to waste space, but perhaps I am wrong in my thinking. It could even be my imagination.

As for the artwork, John is one of the better Spider-Man artists, but Gil Kane (in my opinion) is the top Spidey artist you have. Gil has a way to draw web-slingers like no one else can. Besides, a few issues ago you said that Gil was a great success. Some days your bulletin pages tend to get misleading.

Now, what I really would like to know is how to get an F.F.F. Do you have to have over 50 Marvels of one entry? I have that. Do you have to tramp through the rain, slush, and snow every Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday for your mighty Marvels? I do that. The problem with your letter page is that you have to be a soldier or a college student to get a letter printed. We 6th graders never get their say. Now, in closing I would like to say MAKE MINE MARVEL!

P.S. If you print this I'll have a Q.N.S. and a P.M.M. Don't you think I deserve an F.F.F.?

Jerry Ursini

We'd like to oblige, Jerry, but FFFs are extremely difficult to get. There are no set guidelines to what is required; it just has to be something felt and experienced, something that grabs you completely, something we can't define -- but if you ever make it, you and we will know it. In the meantime, lad, rest content -- five out of six ain't bad.

We have to dispute a few of your statements, though. When we said Gil was a success, it was true -- but anybody that good is in demand for a lot of strips, and thus he gets moved around. We don't figure anybody's complaining about John Romita on this book -- and since Gil is now doing MARVEL TEAM-UP, starring Spidey -- well then, everybody's happy.

Also, who says only soldiers and students get their letters printed? Not Jerry Ursini, any more -- right? (However, you are directed to report for your draft physical next Thursday...)

Gentlemen:

Relevance is the key word in comics today, and it is certainly a step in the right direction. However, it seems that the "relevance field" is getting a bit crowded in Marvel Comics (great though they are). If one reader's comments count (since ish #1 I've been one of the Marvel Maniacs), please don't overkill "relevance" in SPIDER-MAN.

Spider-Man is one of those rare costumed heroes who is full of realism. He was relevant in ish #1 without being a "Soap-Opera" character. In other words, Stan, what is needed is more of Spidey's dynamic realism of

old, and less of the "Pepsi Generation"-type relevance. I'm 21 years old and a junior history major, and have followed Webhead since his inception because of his realism, which was new at that time. But please don't overload the Amazing Spider-Man with "relevance."

Thank you for your time.

C. S. Gunter, Box 1109, Southern State College
Magnolia, Arkansas

Then again, Jerry Ursini -- if you look at this letter and the next, you might still think only college students crack our hallowed LP. But such is coincidence.

Mr. Gunter, we're not sure we ever got away from the old-time Spidey magic. For every hippy, soldier, and riot in this book, there's also Aunt May, a super-villain or three, and lots of action. So you pays your money and you gets your choice: genuine Marvel madness, in all shapes and sizes.

And if you've been here since ish #1, C. S., it's we who thank you for your time.

Dear Stan,

I've followed the Marvel group since the pre-FF, TALES TO ASTONISH, and JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY days. Flattered myself by appreciating AMAZING ADULT FANTASY, wondered with every other Marvelmaniac what "The Hulk is coming" meant; agreed, along with the logo, that the FF was with the first issue, "The World's Greatest"; considered that my ultimate ambition would not be realised until I become an artist or writer for Marvel.

Then, about the time the Surfer was dropped (no, Surfer, there is no justice...) I began to realize I was not thrilling to every issue as I once did. GASPI! Was it myself, or the metamorphoses my favorite superhumans had undergone, or the changeover in personnel at the Bullpen? Whatever the reasons, I now buy only an occasional Spidey, or FF. I loved the Surfer Mag. I still mourn its passing.

Sure, there've been highlights -- Reed's intellectualism, the Surfers' humanitarianism. There've been disappointments -- Bucky's many resurrections and subsequent proof that he was one of the Skull's impersonators, etc. But all considered, you've given this 23-year-old, long-haired "freak" some of the most pleasurable moments of his life.

I write all this as a sort of testament. Stan Lee is a thinking, feeling, mortal human being. And sir -- I've come to realize that -- far from simply agreeing with my own philosophies regarding respect and love of humanity, and regard for another's feelings and scruples, however they may differ from my own -- sir, you have been instrumental in forming these notions in my once supple mind.

And Stan, this letter was written to thank you. Another of your pupils --

Bill Melton, 2718 Fremont Ave. N.
Minneapolis, Minn. 55411

There's nothing to say to that, Bill -- except thanks.



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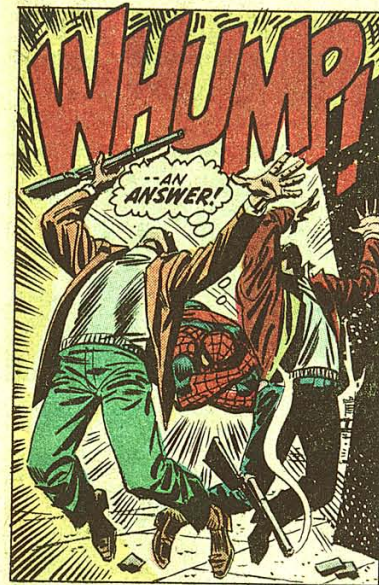
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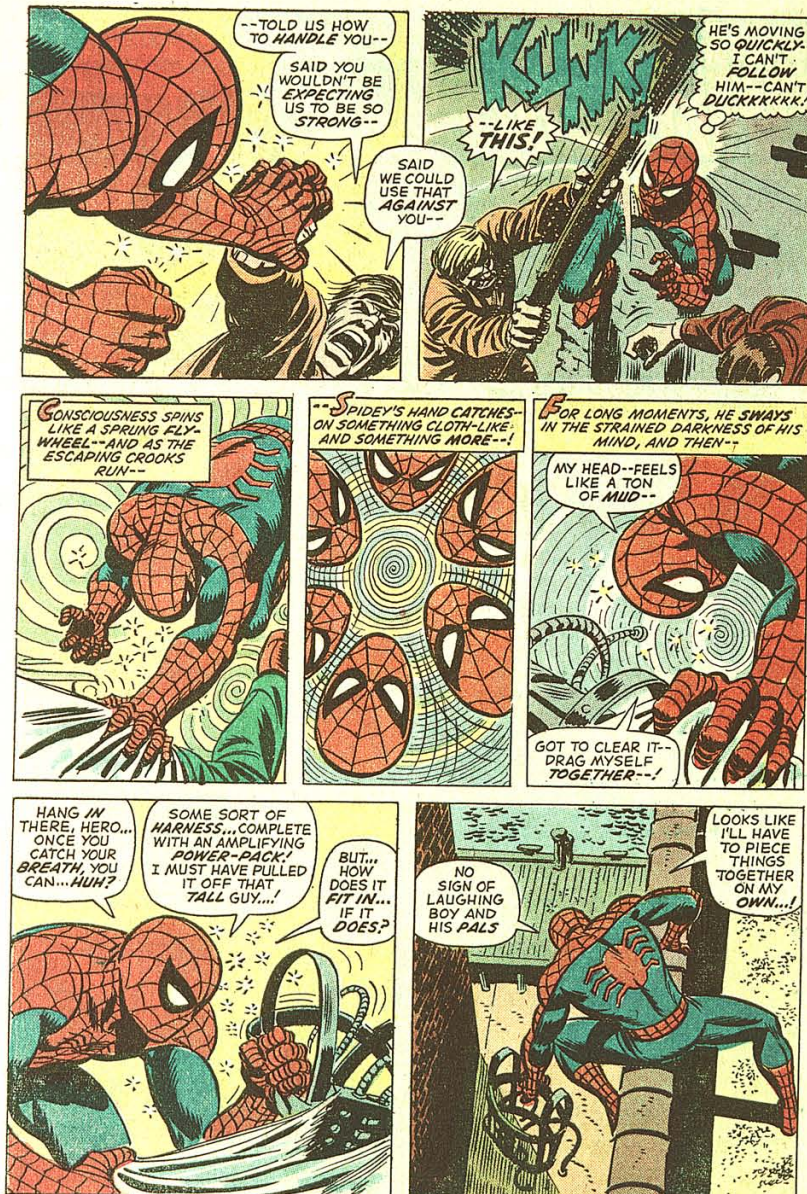
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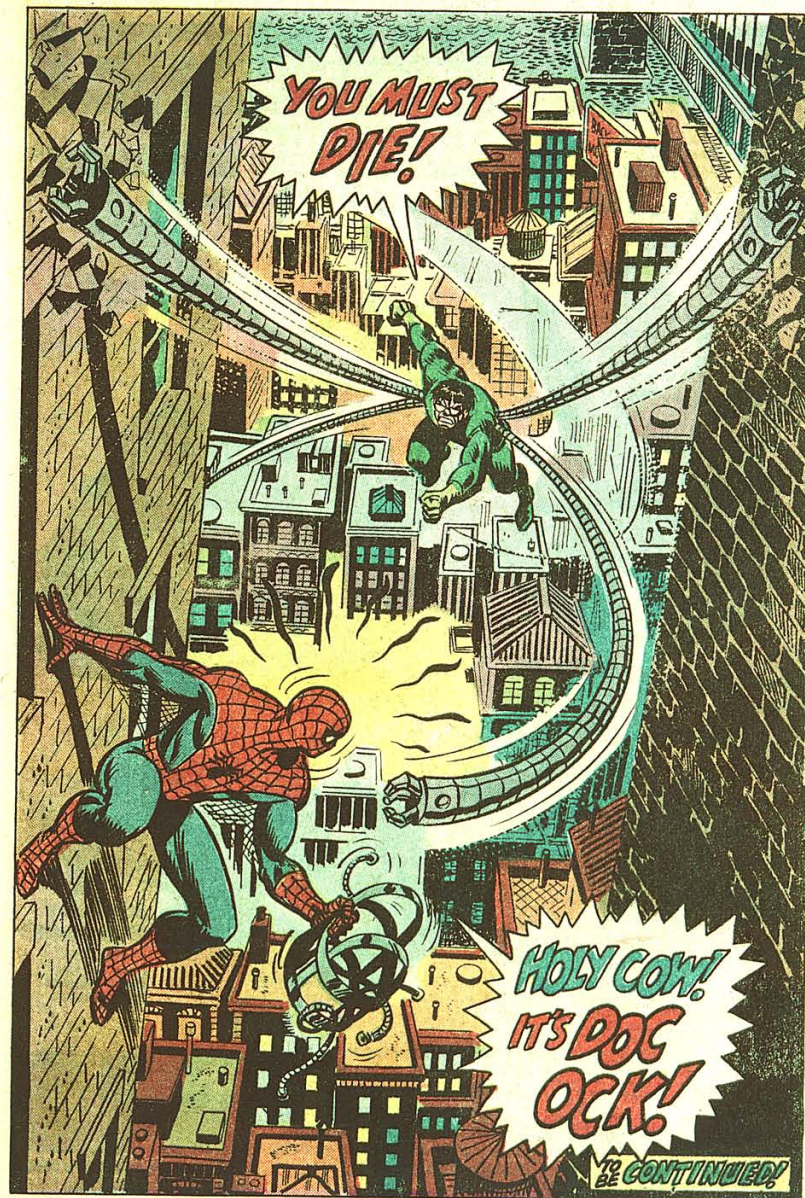
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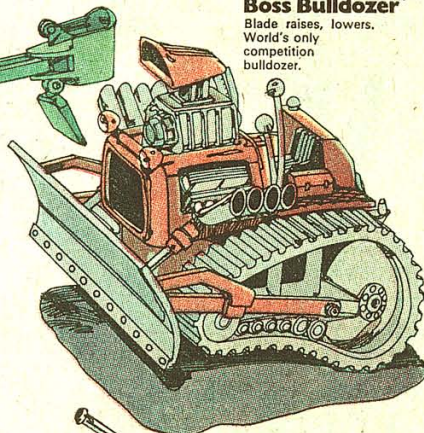
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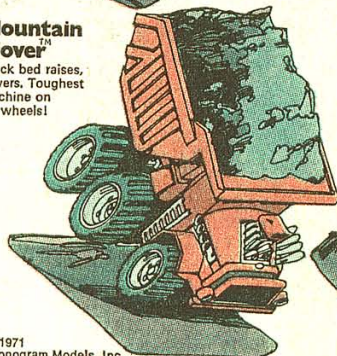
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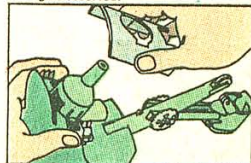


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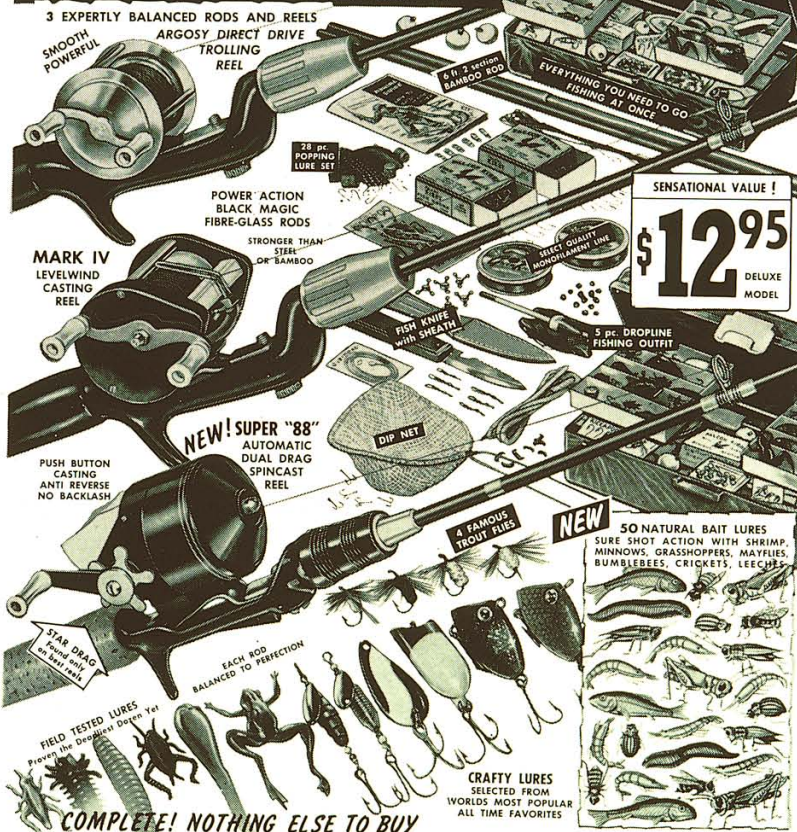
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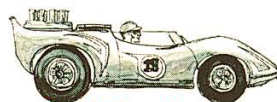
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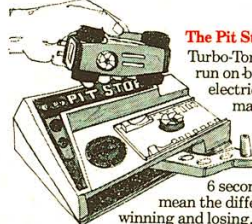
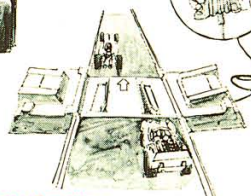
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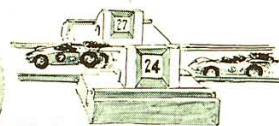


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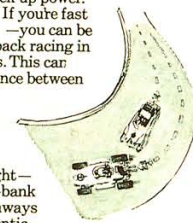


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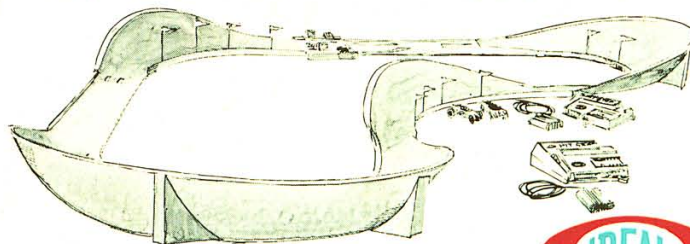
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